

he Murders of Crispus and Fausta 253

a handsome subsidy paid by
Constantine to J Gothic kings, which
certainly does not suggest i
overwhelming triumph of the Roman
arms of ich Eusebius speaks when he
says that the Em-•or was the first to
bring them under the yoke i taught
them to acknowledge the Romans as
their .sters.* As for the Sarmatse,
Eusebius declares f it they had been
obliged to arm their slaves for jir
assistance against the attacks of the
Scythians, it the slaves had revolted
against their old mas-s, and that in
despair the Sarmatae turned to
nstantine and asked for shelter on
Roman terri-y. Some of them, says
Eusebius, were received
0the legions; others were distributed
as farmers
1tillers of the soil throughout the
frontier pro-
ices ; and all, he declares,
confessed that their
sfortunes had really been a blessing
in disguise,
.smuch as it had enabled them to
exchange their
i state of barbarian savagery for the
Roman free-
m. Probably we shall not be far
wrong if we
.ce a different interpretation on the
words of Euse-
is, and see in the transference of these
Sarmatians
the Roman provinces a confession of
weakness
the part of Constantine, They were
not captives
war. They were rather invited over
the borders
keep their kinsmen out, and the
Roman Emperor
d for his new subjects in the shape of a
handsome
)sidy. There can be no other
meaning of the curi-
5 words of Eutropius that Constantine
left behind
i a tremendous reputation for
generosity with

De Vita Const., iv., p.
5. ^ iv., p. 6.